

CAPITAL FACES CRISIS BECAUSE OF EMBARGOES

Likely to Suffer Serious Inconveniences Because of Freight Restrictions.

BUILDING MAY BE AFFECTED

Printing Industry Also May Be Handicapped by Shortage of Paper.

Washington, with scores of other cities, may suffer serious inconvenience as a result of the freight embargo agreed to by thirty roads, considered by railroad men one of the most far reaching and comprehensive ever imposed in this country in peace times.

Some of the ways in which the embargo may affect Washington, according to representatives of the railroads, are these:

Where City Will Be Hit.

Building operations in the Capital may be delayed because shipments of lumber, structural iron, stone and brick will be held up.

One of the city's biggest industries, that of printing, is likely to be affected by the inability to get print paper. The Government may have to make special arrangements to get the large volume of print paper used out through the Government Printing Office in the Congressional Record and other Government documents.

Hardware and furniture shipments may be held up.

One Comfort For District.

But for Washington there is considerable comfort in the embargo. Railroad men believe that the shipments of coal will be expedited. In the last few weeks a shortage in anthracite coal has been reported, in addition to the lack of bituminous coal, which became acute in Washington at various times this winter.

Munition Cities Hard Hit.

From all over the country come reports of apprehension in manufacturing centers, both because cities cannot get raw material and may not be able to get their finished products out. The munition-making cities are particularly hard hit.

Since the Capital is not an industrial city, it is not affected in this way, except in one particular, that in the large shipments of "paper stock" to the West and North for use in making paper. Railroad men say there has been a steady increase recently in the usual large volume of paper and old paper shipped from here to the paper mills in New England and in Michigan.

At no time, it is claimed, has there been serious trouble in getting into Washington, the incoming (Continued on Fourth Page.)

ADVICE IS LEGACY

Foster-Son Got No Money, But Valuable Maxims.

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—George H. Huber, retired museum owner and real estate operator, did not leave his foster son, George Huber Thomson, anything in his will, but he did leave him several maxims for success.

Thomson, who is contesting the will, which leaves the bulk of the estate to Mr. Huber's young widow, Mrs. Matilda E. Huber, now Mrs. Martin C. Wright, told in the Surrogate's Court of these maxims:

"Always make men your study and then use them," was one.

"Don't run after the girls in your boyhood days. I never did until I was twenty-one."

"Remember that molasses catches more friends than vinegar."

"Talk your own way through the world."

Thomson said that he always felt like an intruder in the Huber home and that Mrs. Huber used to complain about him to Mr. Huber.

HONOR DEAD RACE HORSE

Buried on Grounds Where He Had Run for Twenty Years.

MINNEOLA, N. Y., Feb. 16.—On the grounds of the Queens-Nassau Agricultural Society was buried Hiram Abiff, a race horse, who for nearly twenty years had raced on the society's track for W. J. Minor, his owner, who died in November. The horse was put to death to carry out a final request of his owner.

Minor told his wife shortly before his death that he feared Hiram Abiff might suffer if he died, and asked her to request the horse's trainer to kill him.

A veterinary put Hiram Abiff to death painlessly. The burial was attended by the trainer and some members of the Nassau Driving Association.

LIBELED WASHINGTON

Socialist Begins Jail Term of Four Months.

TACOMA, Wash., Feb. 16.—Paul H. Haffer, Socialist, has begun serving sentence of four months in the county jail for having libeled the memory of George Washington. A stay of execution was granted pending a review of the case by the supreme court. When a rehearing was denied Haffer accepted sentence, which included costs of \$100.

Haffer's conviction was due to a letter written to newspapers a year ago in which he deplored the growth of hero worship and said Washington was a slave driver, drunk liquor, and used bad language.

RAILROADS MAKE SHIPPING SURVEY.

Railroads of the Atlantic seaboard are secretly making a survey of shipping in Eastern ports to ascertain what effect the German U-boat warfare, after two full weeks of operation, has had on exports.

The survey is being taken as a basis to determine how serious a menace the railroads may look for as a result of the "barred zone" decree from Berlin.

More stringent embargo orders may follow immediately after this report is completed, it was announced. This information will require several weeks or possibly a month, however.

DISTRICT CITIZENS ASK REFERENDUM

Representatives of Board of Trade and Cosmos Club at Hearing.

Representatives of the Board of Trade and the Cosmos Club and one out-of-town witness joined the pleas before the House District Committee today for a referendum vote in the District on the Sheppard prohibition bill.

Rear Admiral George W. Baird, retired, a former member of the Board of Education, said he appeared at the referendum advocate at the request of members of his club, although they had taken no official action.

"I come here," he said, "at the request of friends in the Cosmos Club to present a brief argument for a referendum on the Sheppard prohibition bill. Prohibition is radical and drastic legislation, and the District is entitled to vote on it. If you are going to put a man down, it is better to lay him down than knock him down."

As Old as History.

Admiral Baird said that every nation since the beginning of time had had its stimulants. It was impossible, he said, to cure the natural cravings of a human being by legislation.

"I am not a drinking man," he said, "and it makes little personal difference to me. My belief is, however, that we should tax heavily all distilled liquors and tax lightly all light liquors. I would encourage the drinking of light beers and wines in place of liquors. I believe that drunkenness has materially decreased in this country since the breweries came. The Germans have a way of drinking their stomachs full of beer before their heads are affected. The French are drinkers of light wine."

Admiral Baird suggested that radical prohibition laws encourage the use of narcotic drugs.

Smoking May Come Next.

Congressman Cary asked if the next thing would not be legislation to regulate smoking.

"I suppose so," said Admiral Baird. "More damage has been done by the (Continued on Fifth Page.)"

D. C. CONFEREES MEET

Hope to Have District Bill Ready For Senate Soon.

Conferees on the District bill met again today and continued to make progress on the measure. Senator Smith, in charge of the bill on the Senate side, hopes to have the conference report ready for the Senate soon.

Although few details are given out, it is clear the bill as finished will show material increases over the House bill.

Indications are strong that the increases of pay for employees will be the 10 per cent and 5 per cent rates which the House has favored from the beginning, and is now holding out for in the legislative bill.

RISKED LIFE FOR MEDALS

Former Inspector Steers at 86 Went Through Smoke For Them.

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—Former Police Inspector Henry Van Wart Steers, eighty-six years old, who retired from the police department in 1892, after nearly forty years of service, and lost his sight six years ago, risked his life yesterday when his residence caught fire, to save relics, testimonials, and medals of his police days, including a medal which he received in 1857 for saving seven persons from drowning.

His daughter, Mrs. Charles H. Holm, was leading him out when he broke away from her and went back through the smoke to his room.

As they started downstairs again, policemen came up and assisted them to the street.

MANY AMERICANS STRANDED

Are Waiting at Rotterdam for Steamer to New York.

ROTTERDAM (via London), Feb. 16.—About a score of Americans are waiting here for the first chance of passage home by a steamer of the Holland-America line. Several of them were passengers on the Nieuw Amsterdam, which was recalled to Rotterdam by wireless on February 2.

Measures have been taken to assist those whose means are unequal to the strain caused by the prolonged delay. At the Holland-America offices it was said today that the sailing of passenger ships had been suspended indefinitely.

CLERKS' SALARY OUTLOOK BRIGHT

House to Insist on Five and Ten Per Cent Raise.

ALL BELOW \$1,800 BENEFIT

Conferees Instructed Not to Accept Smoot Amendment Reducing Increase Scale.

A 5 to 10 per cent increase in the salaries of all Government employees receiving less than \$1,800 a year seems in sight today.

House conferees on various appropriation bills carrying salary allowances have received instructions not to accept the Senate amendment, known as the Smoot amendment, reducing the scale of increase proposed by the lower body when it reported the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill.

Two Votes On Clerks' Pay.

The House voted twice yesterday afternoon on the question of clerks' pay. First, it rejected the Smoot amendment, and then it reapproved its own plan for a 5 to 10 per cent boost.

This action concerned particularly the Indian appropriation bill, but the decision of the House was so overwhelmingly in favor of a larger increase that the conferees on the several appropriation bills are virtually bound today to reject the Smoot amendment no matter in what bill it occurs.

For instance, Congressman Page of North Carolina said he regarded the action of the House as instructions to him in handling the District of Columbia appropriation bill in conference. Mr. Page is chairman of the House conferees. Similar instructions, it is to be assumed, will be given to him in handling the agricultural, postoffice, legislative, and other annual supply bills.

House Compromise Amended.

When the legislative, executive, and judicial bill left the House it contained a compromise salary increase rider worked out by Democrats and Republicans and proposing increases as follows:

For employees receiving less than \$1,200, 10 per cent; for employees receiving from \$1,200 to \$1,800, 5 per cent.

In the Senate this provision was amended to apply only to Government employees getting less than \$1,000 a year. The Senate voted that employees receiving less than \$480 should receive a 15 per cent increase and those drawing \$480 to \$1,000 a 10 per cent increase. This amendment would eliminate thousands of underpaid employees.

Goes Back to Original Plan.

The Smoot amendment—which has gone into several supply bills—was decisively rejected when the Indian bill was sent to conference yesterday. The House voted 215 to 121 against acceptance of the amendment. Then Congressman Good offered the original House plan of 5 and 10 per cent increase, and it was approved by the overwhelming vote of 281 to 59.

The 59 members of the House unwilling to grant the larger increase to the clerks were:

Adamson, Almon, Aswell, Bell, Black, Burdett, Burgess, Callaway, Chandler, Miss. Caraway, Clark, Fla. Connelly, Cox, Decker, Dickinson, Dies, Eagle, Edwards, Garner, Glass, Gowdin, N. C. Gray, Ind. Hardy, Heflin, Helm, Hendley, Hull, Tenn. Johnson, Ky. Jones, Kincheloe, McKellar, Mo. Norriss, Norton, Okla. Oliver, Padgett, Park, Quinn, Rainey, Rayburn, Rouse, Sears, Sherwood, Sisson, Small, Steagall, Stephens, Smith, Stephens, Tex. Taylor, Ark. Taylor, Cal. Thomas, Tillman, Va. Venable, Vinson, W. Va. Webb, Wise, and Young, Tex.

GAY EYE CLOTHES?

Tailors Predict That Black Will Be Abandoned.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 16.—Once the war is over, the conventional color for evening dress will no longer be somber black, but all kinds of gay colors will be worn—purple, lavender, and blue—according to leading tailors here in the convention of the National Association of Merchant Tailors.

And once the "society birds" get started wearing evening clothes with more "snap," only one more step will be needed to get men started wearing knickerbockers, fancy trills, and elaborately colored hose, is also the belief.

The basis for the belief for gay colors is that they will be plentiful when the war is over.

The convention just closed voted that each large city should follow the example of Cincinnati and establish a sartorial college.

It also voted to recommend that the Government pay its employees better salaries, so they will be possible to wear better clothes.

Detroit was voted as the place for the next convention.

WATCH FOR FROZEN FRUIT.

Freezing weather in the South today caused special alert by Department of Agriculture to its inspectors to watch for frozen oranges, which, it is feared, will be shipped to markets in large quantities.

ADOPT CONFERENCE REPORT.

The House today adopted a conference report on the Higher Vocational Education bill, completing its work in connection with the measure.

Quickest Service To Baltimore Every Hour on the Hour, Baltimore & Ohio, \$1.75 round trip, Saturdays and Sundays, \$1.50.—Adv.

SUGAR FAMINE IMMINENT HERE

Washington Faces Dire Prospect of Being Deprived of Great Staple.

NO RELIEF IS IN SIGHT

Dealers Refuse to Sell More Than Five Pounds to One Customer.

Washington today faces the prospect of being put on "sugar rations." Wholesale dealers in the product asserted that the probability of a sugar famine in the city is grave. With a temporary supply on hand, city importation of sugar largely has been cut off. The strikes in sugar refineries in Philadelphia and New York, reflected to a degree in Baltimore, have added to the difficulties.

Many grocery stores today refused housewives more than a small quantity of the product. All who, frightened by a possible sugar famine, endeavored to buy sugar by the barrel were refused.

Reflected in Prices.

The situation also has been reflected in prices. The price yesterday jumped from 7½ cents to 10 cents a pound.

Dealers asked what the situation would be in Washington should the action of the House as instructions to him in handling the District of Columbia appropriation bill in conference. Mr. Page is chairman of the House conferees. Similar instructions, it is to be assumed, will be given to him in handling the agricultural, postoffice, legislative, and other annual supply bills.

Allowance Curtailed.

Grocery stores will refuse all customers more than a small quantity of sugar, perhaps allowing them only a day's allowance.

Three carloads of sugar were expected in Washington today. The sugar has all been sold, however, and orders from outside of Washington have been placed for weeks.

John H. Magruder, proprietor of a large grocery, is refusing to sell to any except regular customers. He sells them no larger amount than five pounds.

John Wilkins, another sugar dealer here, stated today that his house was supplying 10 per cent of what customers had ordered some time ago.

Situation Grave.

"The situation is very grave. Washington is at present in the throes of a sugar famine," he said.

Cuba is responsible for the situation, and not Philadelphia. It is stated. The strikes in Philadelphia have added, however, to the difficulties.

The revolution in Cuba has prevented the hundreds of thousands of tons of her sugar crop from reaching the United States, despite the fact that there is an increase this year of 400,000 tons in her crop over last.

WIFE RECRUITS FOR NAVY

Mrs. Murphy Runs Station and Accepts Applicant for Enlistment.

WATERTOWN, N. Y., Feb. 16.—Lawrence J. Murphy, naval recruiting officer here, got orders to report at once at Syracuse for an efficiency congress of recruiting officers.

"And while you're talking efficiency, what about the office?" demanded his wife.

Murphy read the message again. "There's no word about the office," he said. "I'll just have to close it."

"You'll do nothing of the kind," cried Mrs. Murphy. "Do you just run along and attend the lecture or what ever it may be and I will be running the office for you."

So she did, and Floyd F. Appel, the only applicant, was accepted by her in condition that he pass the physical examination.

LINER DEFEATS U-BOAT

Honduras' Stern Gun Drives Submarine Away.

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—The French liner steamer Honduras, which arrived today from Havre reports that on December 7, on the homeward passage when twenty miles from Brest, she was attacked by a submarine which fired twenty-eight shells at the Honduras, striking her on the bridge and stern, but causing only slight damage. The Honduras fired thirty shots rapidly with her stern gun, and drove the submarine away.

SAFE ROUTE TO DUTCH INDIES.

THE HAGUE, Feb. 16.—According to the Nieuwe Rotterdam Courant, the latest plan for maintaining safe communication between Holland and the Dutch East Indies is to send merchandise by way of the Panama Canal, while passengers will travel by way of New York and San Francisco.

FOR TIMES READERS.

Prof. Samuel Want, an authority on international law and a thorough student of the German-American situation, is writing for The Washington Times a series of brief articles on the commercial problems growing out of the war conditions.

The first of these articles appears today on the editorial page.

WILSON PLANS BIG NAVAL DEMONSTRATION AGAINST GERMAN U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

WOMEN TO AID IN ARMS WORKS

War Department Ready to Try Fair Sex in Munitions Plants If Necessary.

PRECEDENT IS SHATTERED

Plan Never Before Attempted in Arsenal of This Country.

In rushing the work of army preparations for eventualities, the War Department is prepared to try the successful British experiment of employing women machine operators and munition makers in United States arsenals.

A formal request has been made by the War Department upon the employment bureau of the Department of Labor for more than 1,000 skilled workers necessary to perform additional work. The request calls for women as well as men, and any women operators that can be secured are to be employed as machine operators at wages of from \$1.36 to \$2.24 a day.

First Time in History.

If such women operators are obtained it will be the first time in history that they have been given such employment in United States arsenals.

Women have been employed heretofore on clothing, tent making and other sewing operations.

The call upon the Labor Bureau of Employment says "about 900 skilled laborers, tool makers and machinists, are needed on the Pennsylvania arsenal at Philadelphia, and 150 in Picatinny arsenal at Dover, N. J."

Both Sexes Wanted.

In spreading notice of this prospective Government employment the Department of Labor says:

"Applications call for women as well as men. The women are to be machine operators. The men desired include laborers at \$2.24 a day, skilled workers at \$2.76 to \$3.40 a day, machine operators at from \$2.40 to \$2.61 a day; blacksmiths, instrument makers, tool makers and machinists at from \$2.24 to \$3 a day."

All persons must be citizens of the United States. Eight hours constitute a day's work, and employees are given thirty days' notice. For details concerning this employment, communications should be addressed to the United States Employment Service, 122 South Third street, Philadelphia, or 297 Market street, Newark, N. J."

Not Made Clear.

Just what proportion of women will be given employment in the 1,000 or more army openings, is not made clear by the War Department or the Department of Labor.

It is considered likely, however, that women will be given any test for which they qualify.

Notice of the openings for women has not been out long enough to have obtained any results, it was stated today. The Labor Department employment service is confident, however, it can secure workers for every position.

Few Applications from Women.

The service has had few employment applications from women or positions as machine, tool, or similar work workers. It is confident, however, that women in the Government service will bring a large response.

The War Department did not make it clear whether it was prepared to train women to do munitions-making tasks, as was found necessary in Great Britain.

WAR LIQUOR BILL READY

Randall Ready to Authorize Commandeering of Distilleries.

Congressman Randall of California is drafting a bill giving the President or Secretary of War power to take over all distilleries and to regulate all saloons in time of war.

He will introduce the measure at the first sign of real trouble with Germany, he declared today.

Conversion of liquor manufacturing into munitions plants is designed in the bill. Either the President or the Secretary of War, probably the former, would be given power to commandeer all distilleries in time of national emergency. Power also would be given, either to regulate the hours of saloons or to close them altogether.

Randall today declared in favor of immediate action on the Webb resolution for a national prohibition amendment to the Constitution.

CAPTAIN DEFIES GERMAN

Sails Despite \$20,000 Reward Offered for His Capture.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 16.—With a reward of about \$20,000 for his capture, offered by the German government, Capt. William Miller, of the Clan line steamer Clan Robertson, left here today for New York to take on a general cargo for England. He will again sail right into the submarine zone, but his vessel is expected to be well armed.

BERNSTORFF'S SHIP OFF HALIFAX.

HALIFAX, Feb. 16.—The liner Frederik VIII, bearing Count von Bernstorff, was reported sighted off Halifax harbor shortly before noon today.

The liner put to sea again after approaching the harbor, under instructions, it is understood, to be prepared to enter port at 7:30 this evening.

Arrangements of the Dominion authorities for examination of the Frederik VIII and those aboard provides that the liner shall enter and depart from port at night. None of the ambassadorial party, nor other passengers, will be permitted to leave the ship.

Applications of persons to go aboard the liner have also been denied.

MANY INDIGNITIES TO CONSULS BARED

Insults Offered U. S. Officials in Germany Disclosed by State Department.

Further details obtained at the State Department today concerning the action of German officials on the German frontier in searching American consuls and their wives, disclose the fact that the women as well as men were subjected to the most humiliating indignities.

It was further disclosed that while the practice of stripping and searching persons crossing the frontier was adopted with respect to all private individuals, no other consuls, save those representing the United States, were so treated.

Vigorous Protest Made.

Vigorous protest against the indignities, it was learned, was filed by the State Department with the German government shortly before the severance of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

The explanation given at the time is one which has been frequently offered of late in connection with the detention of Ambassador Gerard—namely that it was the work of subordinate officials acting on their own responsibility.

The State Department's records show three specific cases of American consular officers who were either subjected to the indignities on the frontier, or were threatened with such affronts.

For the obvious reason of not wishing further to humiliate the women concerned, the department refuses to make public their names or the names of their husbands.

Cause of Protest.

The last case reported, and that which drew forth the formal protest from the United States, concerned an American consul general and his wife, who were held up by the German frontier guards at Warnemunde, a German town on the boundary between Germany and Denmark. Both of the other incidents occurred at the same town.

Persons crossing into Denmark at this point are ferried across a river. When the consul general and his wife arrived at Warnemunde, their baggage was first taken from them and carefully searched. They were then required to turn over all their papers, including their passports. These papers were subjected to microscopic examination and other tests.

The husband and wife were then separated.

Consul Stripped.

The consul general was first taken into a room where he was ordered to strip, each piece of clothing being carefully examined. Various chemical solutions were then applied to his body to ascertain whether any invisible ink markings had been written on his skin.

Semi-medical inspectors then took him in hand.

Following the examination of the husband, the wife was taken in hand by women inspectors who put her through the same processes. They were then required to turn over all their papers, including their passports. These papers were subjected to microscopic examination and other tests.

The husband and wife were then separated.